

From the Provost

January 24, 2017



Welcome Back! I hope you all had a restful and relaxing winter break! Juneau is beautiful in the winter (except for the ice). Be sure to wear your ice grippers!

• Strategic Pathways

Strategic Pathways continues on. On January 18th the Summit Team met in Anchorage to hear presentations from the Phase Two working groups which included eLearning, University Relations, Institutional Research, Human Resources, Fisheries, Community Campuses, Health, and Student Services. Please be sure to go President Johnsen's website and provide input! <http://www.alaska.edu/pathways/> The Board of Regents will be reviewing the options in March and voting in at their meeting in June. Phase three teams are now meeting and include Finance, Risk Management, Land Management, Facilities, College of Arts and Sciences: Arts and Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences: Natural and Social Sciences, and Mine and Petroleum Training. In relationship to Phase One of Strategic Pathways the School of Management is slowly being integrated into Arts and Sciences as a program and will be known as the Department of Business and Public Administration. We should hear more soon from Statewide on the consolidation and implementation of one School of Education at UAS. Please stay tuned for further developments related to Strategic Pathways.

• Professional Development Series

Thank you to Eric Scott, Director of Campus Life and Student Conduct Officer for his presentation on Academic Integrity and the Student Conduct Process on December 9. *February 10th is Food Sovereignty Friday* with Kolene James, Coordinator of the Native and Rural Student Center. See the list of Professional Development Brown Bags under [Provost's Office Links](#).

• Enhancing the Baccalaureate Experience

The Enhancing the Baccalaureate Experience Work Group completed their tasks for the fall semester with a White Paper supporting several options. (Please see the Provost's website for this document.) This group will continue to meet this semester as the discussion expands to all faculty and programs. A special thank you to Robin Walz, Facilitator, and the group members, Ernestine Hayes, Kevin Krein, Richard Simpson, Sherry Tamone, Lora Vess, Glenn Wright, and Ali Ziegler. The work group will be seeking additional input so be certain to give this report serious thought.

• Workgroup on Assessment

In preparation for the upcoming NWCCU Accreditation in 2019, the Deans and Directors felt it necessary to convene a work group of faculty to address assessment issues on campus, specifically GERs. With funding from the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) six faculty members will be attending the Association of American Colleges & Universities "2017 General Education and Assessment: Design Thinking for Student Learning" in Phoenix, Arizona, February 23 to 25, 2017. Members of this workgroup are Andrea Dewees, Robin Gilcrist, Alberta Jones, Colleen McKenna, Math Trafton, and Ali Ziegler. Stayed tuned for presentations and workshops in March and April.

- **Faculty Activities**

Thank you to Dr. Lora Vess and the Sustainability Committee for their presentation January 20, 2017, “The Inauguration of a New Era of Climate Change in America.” The University of Alaska Southeast has been named one of the best **fishing career builders** by the Alaska Journal of Commerce. Dr. Brian Buma and his colleagues recently published an article “Emerging climate-driven disturbance processes: Widespread mortality associated with snow-to-rain transitions across 10° of latitude and half the range of a climate-threatened conifer” in the journal *Global Change Biology*. This important work was also acknowledged by the Alaska Dispatch News. And, Dr. Mike Stekoll was recently appointed to the Alaska Mariculture Task Force formed by Governor Walker. Dr. Stekoll also was recently awarded \$418,577 from the National Sea Grant College Program for research on new seaweed aquaculture in Alaska.

- **Other Activities**

I am still meeting with faculty and staff one-on-one; so if you haven’t scheduled a meeting please do so. I would like to get to better know everyone on campus! I continue to meet with Deans and Directors every other week and am interacting regularly with Dan White the VPAAR at Statewide as well as the Provosts at UAA and UAF. Upcoming events this spring include the Innovation Summit in February, a presentation for the Alaska Leadership Initiative on “Dealing with Difficult People” on February 24, and presenting to the Midsession Summit for Southeast Conference in March. Comprehensive faculty evaluations will soon take up a great part of my time but I am looking forward to reviewing all of the great work our faculty do.

Please remember I am always available for discussion about any of these items or any concerns you might have.

Have a Great Semester!